

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for generating code for loading a multi-dimensional data warehouse from a plurality of source databases, the method comprising the steps:

- (a) defining the multi-dimensional data warehouse and the source databases as a set of entity-relationship data models;
- (b) creating a source file containing instructions for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases, the instructions including a plurality of high-level directives; and

(c) automatically pre-processing each of said high-level directives in the source file, by

(i) accessing said data models to pull information from said entity-relationship data models about the structures of said source databases and said multi-dimensional data warehouse, and

(ii) using said information replacing the directives with code, using information pulled from the data models, to generate an executable destination file containing the said code for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases; and

(d) appending said code generated by pre-processing said plurality of high-level directives to an executable destination file.

2 - 6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for loading a multi-dimensional data warehouse from a plurality of source databases, the method comprising the steps:

- (a) defining the multi-dimensional data warehouse and the source databases as a set of entity-relationship data models;

(b) creating a source file containing instructions for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases, the instructions including a plurality of high-level directives; and

(c) automatically pre-processing each of said high-level directives in the source file, by

(i) accessing said data models to pull information from said entity-relationship data models about the structures of said source databases and said multi-dimensional data warehouse, and

(ii) using said information replacing the directives with code, using information pulled from the data models, to generate an executable destination file containing the said code for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases; and

(d) appending said code generated by pre-processing said plurality of high-level directives to an executable destination file; and

(e) running the code in the executable destination file, to load the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 7 wherein said step of creating the source file includes inserting at least one run-time processor macro into the source file, and wherein said step of running the code includes replacing said at least one run-time processor macro with executable code generated at run time.

9 - 12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

(a) a set of entity-relationship data models defining a multi-dimensional data warehouse and a plurality of source databases;

(b) a source file containing instructions for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases, the instructions including a plurality of high-level directives;

(c) pre-processing means for automatically pre-processing each of said high-level directives in the source file, by

(i) accessing said data models to pull information from said entity-relationship data models about the structures of said source databases and said multi-dimensional data warehouse, and

(ii) using said information replacing the directives with code, using information pulled from the data models, to generate an executable destination file containing the said code for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases; and

(d) means for appending said code generated by pre-processing said plurality of high-level directives to an executable destination file; and

(e) processing means for running the code in the executable destination file, to load the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases.

14 -15 (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) An information carrier, holding a program for performing a method for generating code for loading a multi-dimensional data warehouse from a plurality of source databases, defined as a set of entity-relationship data models, the method comprising the steps:

(a) creating a source file containing instructions for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source databases, the instructions including a plurality of high-level directives; and

(b) automatically pre-processing each of said high-level directives in the source file, by

(i) accessing said entity-relationship data models to pull information from said data models about the structures of said source databases and said multi-dimensional data warehouse, and

(ii) using said information replacing the directives with code, using information pulled from the data models, to generate an executable destination file containing the said

code for loading the multi-dimensional data warehouse from the plurality of source
databases; and

(c) appending said code generated by pre-processing said plurality of high-level directives to
an executable destination file.